

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services

BCIS website: www.bcis.gov

**For Immediate Release
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Public Affairs: (202) 514-2648

MEDIA ADVISORY

**BCIS Director Eduardo Aguirre to Swear-in
More Than 200 Sailors as New Americans**

More than 200 U.S. Navy sailors, many who served in “Operation Iraqi Freedom”, will be sworn in as new citizens of the United States aboard the aircraft carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) in a special citizenship ceremony on the ship, 9 a.m., Friday, August 8. All applied for citizenship under President Bush’s *Executive Order to Expedite Naturalization of Aliens and Noncitizen Nationals Serving in An Active Duty Status During the War on Terrorism* issued on July 3, 2002.

In a ceremony hosted by the Commander, Navy Region, Mid-Atlantic and the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, Mr. Eduardo Aguirre, Director of BCIS, will address the sailors, who hail from over 25 states, and administer the oath of allegiance to the new Americans.

Event: Naturalization Ceremony

Date: Friday August 8, 2003

Time: 9 a.m. Citizenship Ceremony begins.

Location: USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71)
Pier 12
Naval Station, Norfolk
Norfolk, Virginia

All media should report to the Navy Tour and Information Office, 9079 Hampton Blvd, at 8:00 a.m. Media interested in covering this citizenship ceremony should contact LTJG Lonelli Gonzalez or Beth Baker at the Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Public Affairs Office at (757) 322-2853. Navy personnel will be available for media interviews immediately following the swearing-in ceremony.

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| <p>On March 1, 2003, the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services (BCIS) became one of three former INS components to join the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The BCIS is charged with fundamentally transforming and improving the delivery of immigration and citizenship services, while enhancing the integrity of our nation's security.</p> |
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